

April 4, 1975

was drafted so we amended it to hopefully make it more compatible, Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: OK. Mr. President, could I ask Senator Kennedy, the introducer of the bill, a question.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Yes, certainly.

SENATOR BARNETT: Senator Kennedy, have you talked to the personnel department and do you know what the qualification standards are in the personnel department for this kind of a position?

SENATOR KENNEDY: No, I have not.

SENATOR BARNETT: Do you know if there is qualifications in the personnel standards for this type of job?

SENATOR KENNEDY: I would say that if you read the bill that the qualifications with the amendment as far as...and I think the amendment states 4 years and the original bill was written as 7 and the amendment changes it back to 4 which would be statute if the bill were passed. The reason for changing and my request for the amendment, too, to change the bill back to 4 years or 5, whatever would have been reasonable, and the Committee came out with the 4. This does give an opportunity to have more people in applying that they do qualify so that they have competition.

SENATOR BARNETT: Well, that's where, I guess, we would have to disagree because the personnel standards as we have set forth, we have given the power to the personnel people in the state of Nebraska to pick qualified people. That is their position. That is their job and we are now going to set out in statute what these people, who these people should be, what they should consist of, what their background is. I think we are taking power away from the Personnel Board and here is another thing. We had standards set forth for the Warden and they ignored them.

SENATOR KENNEDY: I don't think that is true, Senator Barnett...

SENATOR BARNETT: I know it's true.

SENATOR KENNEDY: ...I mean here in this particular bill.

SENATOR BARNETT: Oh, all right.

SENATOR KENNEDY: And it is a very difficult position to fill and I am saying probably whether it was left at the 7 or 5, might be one way or the other, but the qualifications are still there and will be followed.

SENATOR BARNETT: By statute.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Yes.

SENATOR BARNETT: Then it wipes out the Personnel Board?

SENATOR KENNEDY: No. No, I don't think so. The Personnel would be in that same corresponding language.